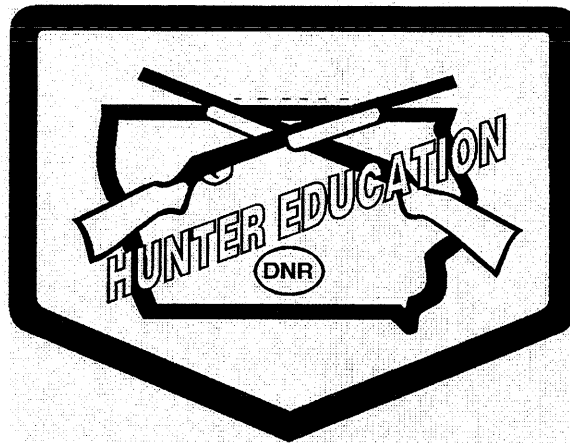


# **Iowa Hunter Education Program Hunting Incident Report**

January 1, 2002 - December 31, 2002



**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Jeffery R. Vonk Director**

**January 2003**

# **Iowa Hunter Education Program Hunting Incident Report**

Prepared By:

Recreational Safety Officer Unit

Rod Slings  
Recreation Safety Programs Supervisor  
Law Enforcement Bureau

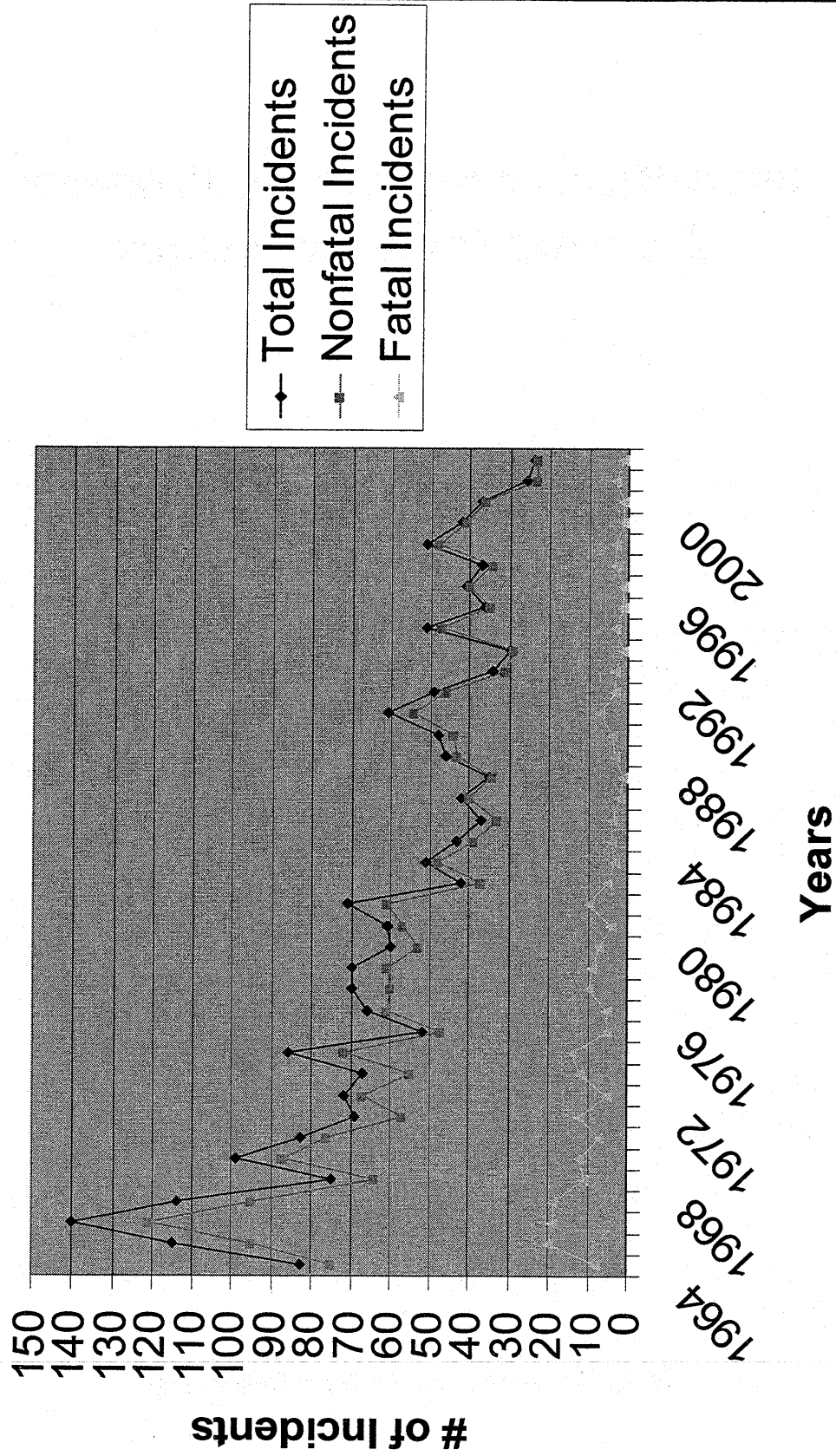
Conservation and Recreation Division

January 2003

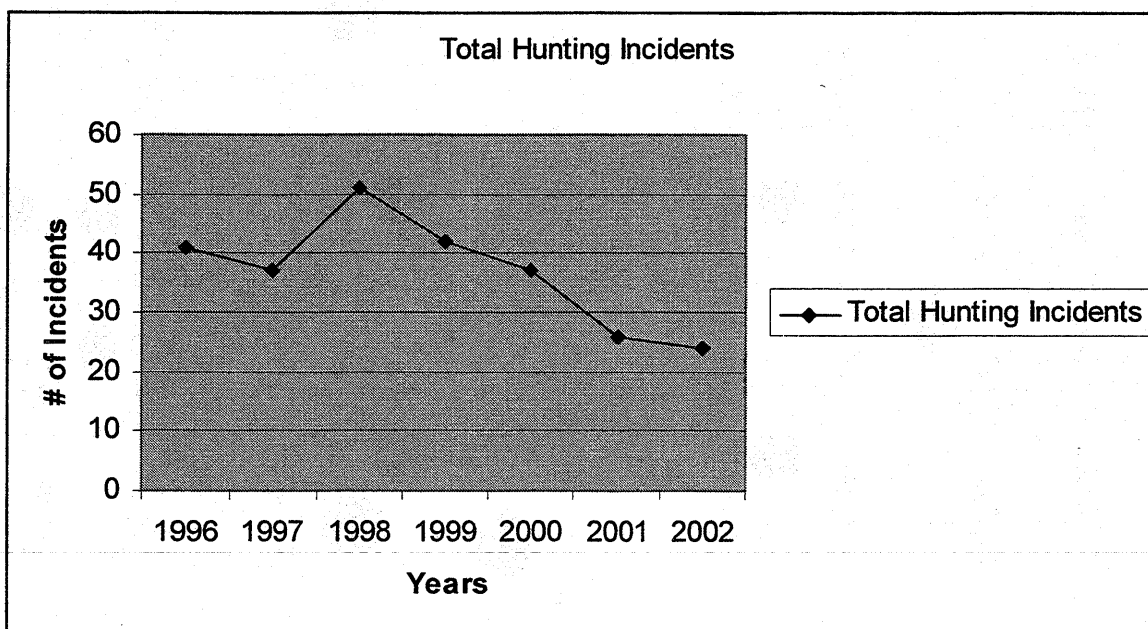
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Iowa Department of Natural Resources

## Iowa Hunting Incidents 1964 - 2002



DON 437	OSCEOLA 309	DICKINSON 775	EMMETT 467	KASSIAH 641	WINNEBAGO 682	WORTH 560	MICHELL 393	HOWARD 604	WINNEBIEK 967	ALLAMAKEE 1180
BLOK 1097	OREN 648	CLAY 1924	PALO ALTO 581		HANCOCK 458	CIRRO GORDO 992	FLOYD 731		FAYETTE 1179	CLAYTON 869
PLYMOUTH 882	CHEROKEE 541	BUENA VISTA 698	POCAHONTAS 460	HUMBOLDT 373		FRANKLIN 595	BUTLER 612	CHICKASAW 1806		
				WESTER 1117	WRIGHT 491	HARDIN 474	GRUNDY 339	BLACK HAWK 3328	BUCHANAN 957	DELAWARE 1809
WOODBURY 2326	IDA 482	SAC 417	CALHOUN 165							DUBUQUE 2657
MONONA 456	CRAWFORD 947	CARROLL 1157	GREENE 418	BOONE 778	STORY 2015	MARSHALL 1197	TAMA 325	BENON 821	INN 3334	JONES 842
										JACKSON 1121
HARRISON 713	SHELBY 653	AUDUBON 181	GUTHRIE 1308	DALLAS 1068	POLK 5793	JASPER 1248	POWERBIEK 748	IOWA 1028	JOHNSON 2229	CLINTON 974
										CEDAR 528
POTAWATOMIE 2002	CASS 663	ADAIR 381		1058	WARREN 1953	MARION 1428	791	571	WASHINGTON 818	SCOTT 4467
				MADISON			MAHOGA 791	571		MUSCATINE 1043
MILLS 658	MONTGOMERY 543	ADAMS 133	INDIAN 584	CLARKE 420	LUCAS 517	MONROE 325	WAPELLO 1039	JEFFERSON 477	HENRY 760	SOUSA 587
FREMONT 272	PAGE 746	153	208	285	291	513	549	715	DES MOINES 1097	
	TAYLOR	RINGGOLD	DECATUR	WAYNE				VAN BUREN	LEE 1118	

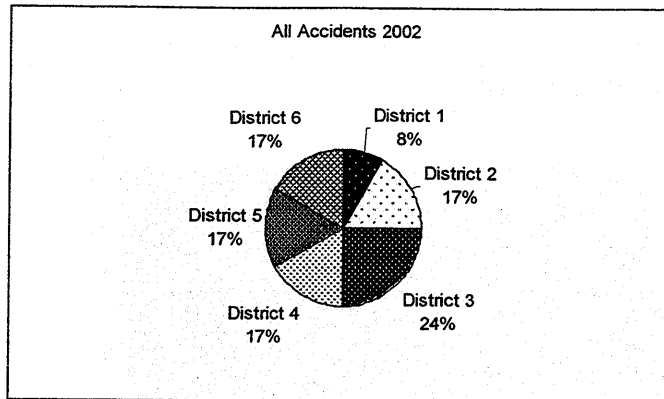


A map of Iowa showing its 99 counties. Each county is labeled with its name. A large black 'X' is drawn over the map, indicating the location of the state capital, Des Moines, which is situated in Polk County. The map is oriented with the state's outline, showing the Mississippi River to the west and the Missouri River to the east.

## Personal Injury

## Personal Injury

## Hunting Incidents by District 2002

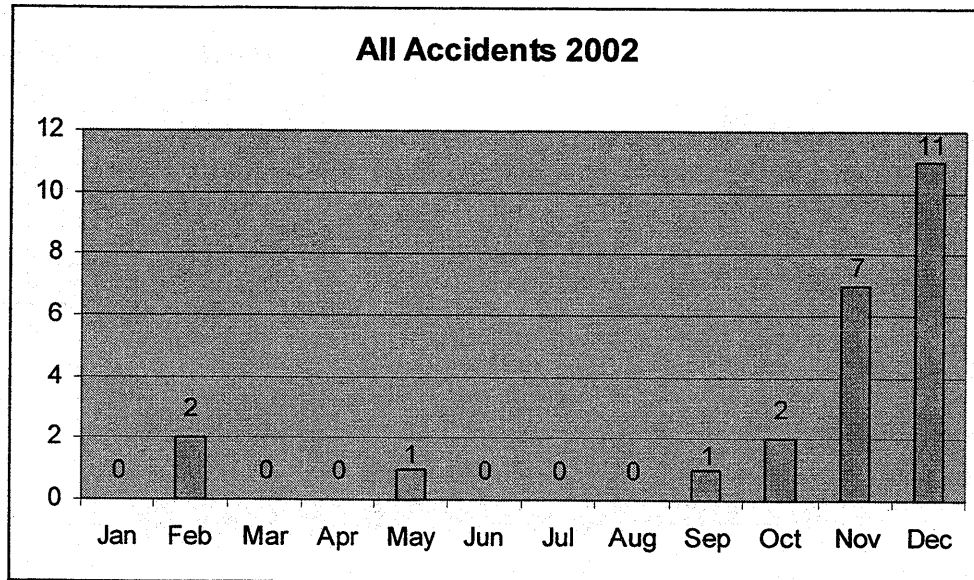


District	# of Incidents
District 1	2
District 2	4
District 3	6
District 4	4
District 5	4
District 6	4

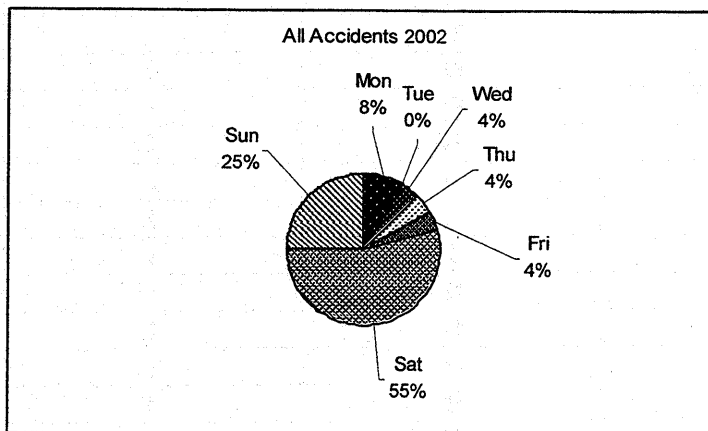
## 2002 Hunting Incidents by County

County	Personal Injury	Fatality	Total
Adams	1	0	1
Allamakee	1	0	1
Appanoose	1	0	1
Cerro Gordo	1	0	1
Cherokee	1	0	1
Clay	1	0	1
Clayton	1	0	1
Dallas	1	0	1
Grundy	1	0	1
Guthrie	1	0	1
Harrison	1	0	1
Iowa	1	0	1
Johnson	2	0	2
Linn	1	0	1
Mahaska	0	1	1
Monona	1	0	1
Montgomery	1	0	1
Pocahontas	1	0	1
Tama	1	0	1
Taylor	1	0	1
Washington	1	0	1
Wayne	1	0	1
Wright	1	0	1
Total Incidents: 24			

## 2002 Hunting Incidents by Month

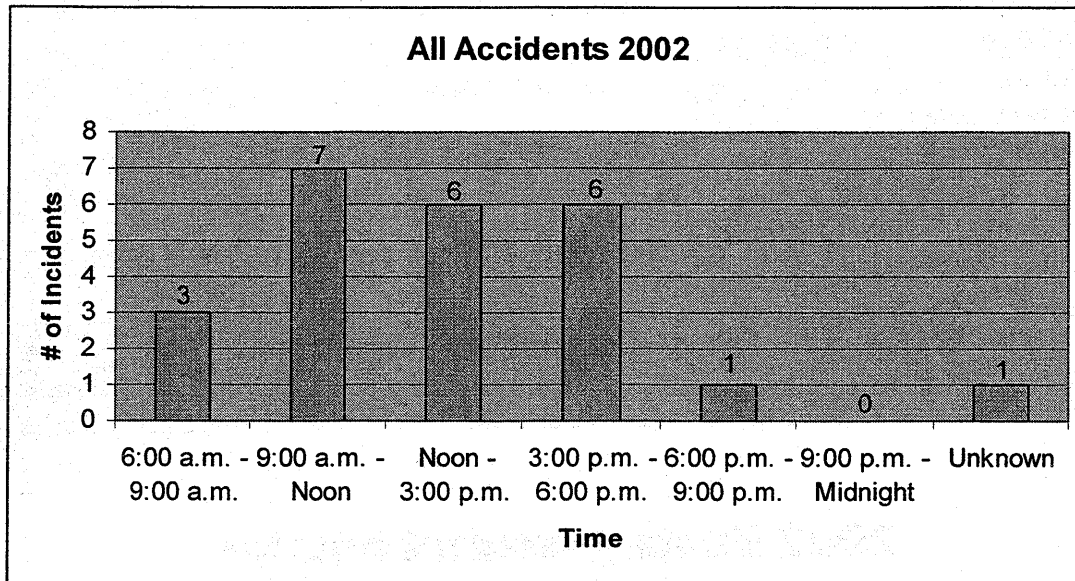


## 2002 Hunting Incidents by Day of Week

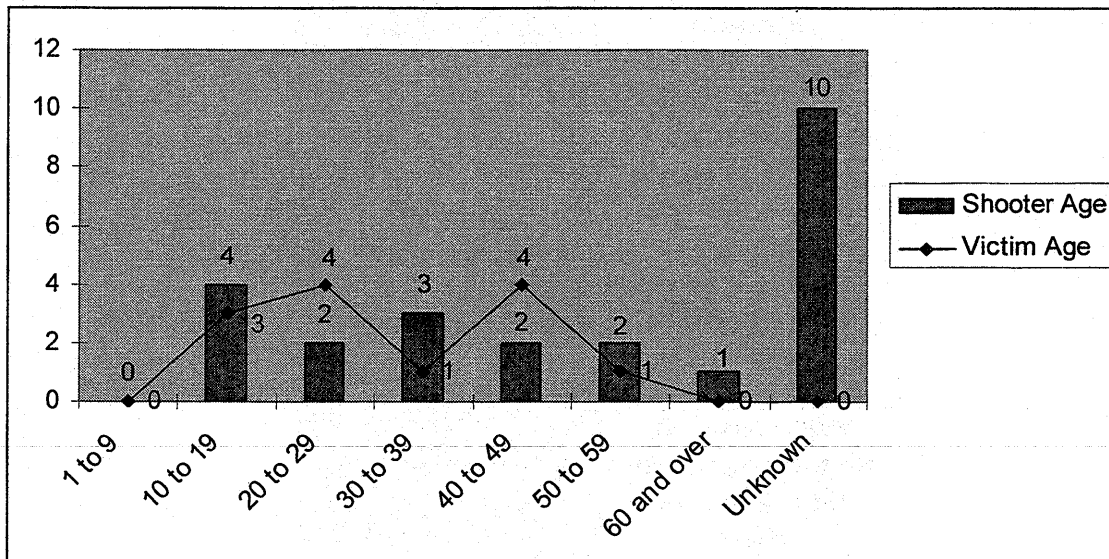


Day of the Week	# of Incidents
Mon	2
Tue	0
Wed	1
Thu	1
Fri	1
Sat	13
Sun	6

## 2002 Hunting Incidents by Time of Day



## 2002 Hunting Incidents by Age





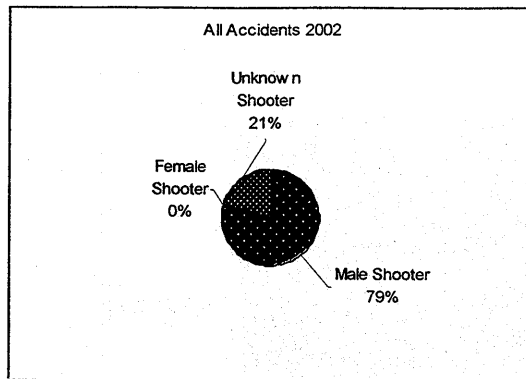
## 2002 Intentional Firing Vs. Unintentional Firing

<b>Intentional Firing</b>	<b># of Incidents</b>	<b>Unintentional Firing</b>	<b># of Incidents</b>
Game flew between shooter and victim	6	Exceeded zone of fire	1
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	1	Mixed Ammo/incorrect ammo	1
Victim out of sight of shooter	4	Shooter stumbled and fell	3
Victim mistaken for game	2	Loading/unloading firearm	2
Unknown	1	Careless gun handling	3

## 2002 Hunting Incident Injuries

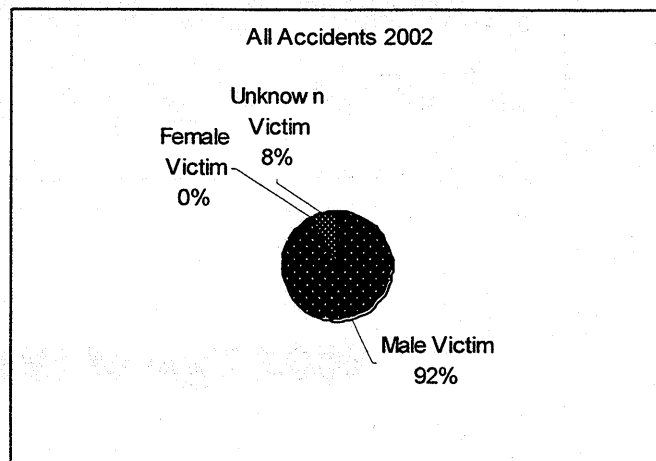
<b>Type of Injury</b>	<b># of Incidents</b>
Slug through thigh	2
Pellets to face	4
Pellets to mid section	1
.22 cal. In thigh	1
Slug grazed calf	1
Slug through forearm	1
Slug hit shoulder	1
Slug to skull	1
Slug to lower back	1
Hand Injury	1
Pellets to head	2
Pellets to arm	1
Pellets to groin	1
.22 cal. In calf	1
Slug through stomach	1
Slug broke rib	1
Slug grazed skull	1
Slug to upper chest	1
Unknown	1

## 2002 Sex of Firearm Casualty

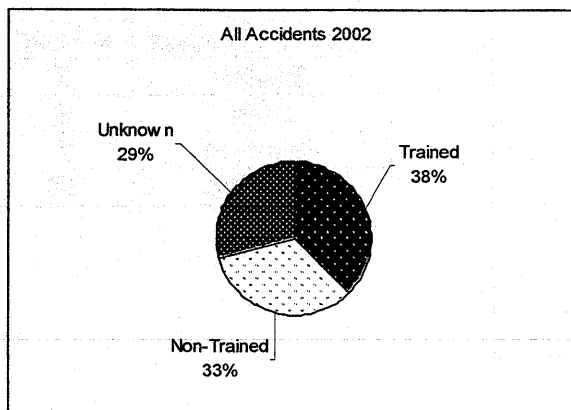


Sex of Shooter	# of Shooters
Male Shooter	19
Female Shooter	0
Unknown Shooter	5

Sex of Victim	# of Victims
Male Victim	12
Female Victim	0
Unknown Victim	1

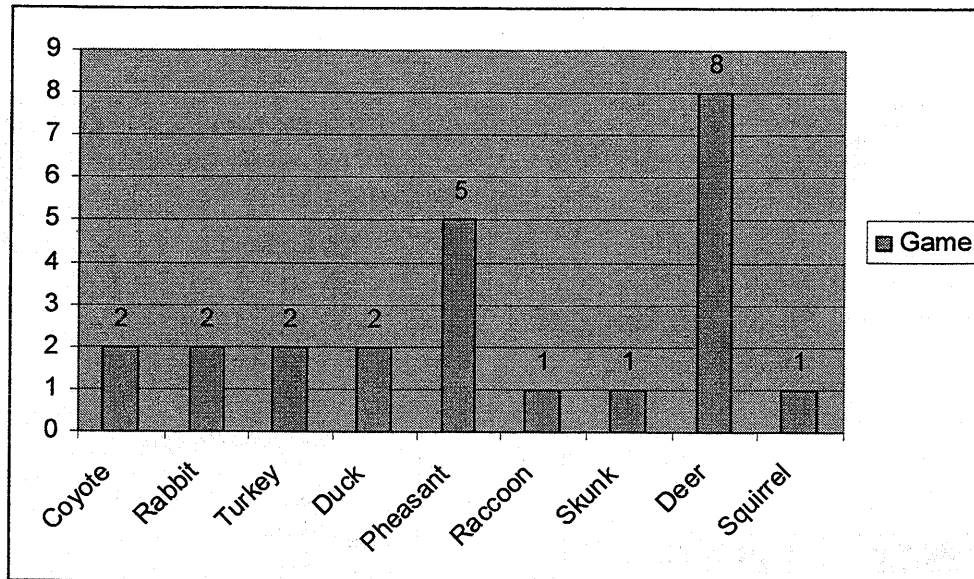


## 2002 Hunter Ed Graduates Involved in Hunting Incident

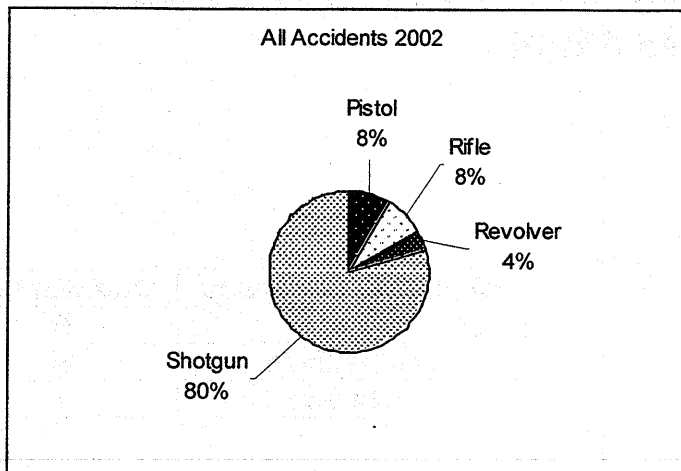


Hunter Ed Graduates	# of Hunters
Trained	9
Non-Trained	8
Unknown	7

## 2002 Game Hunted

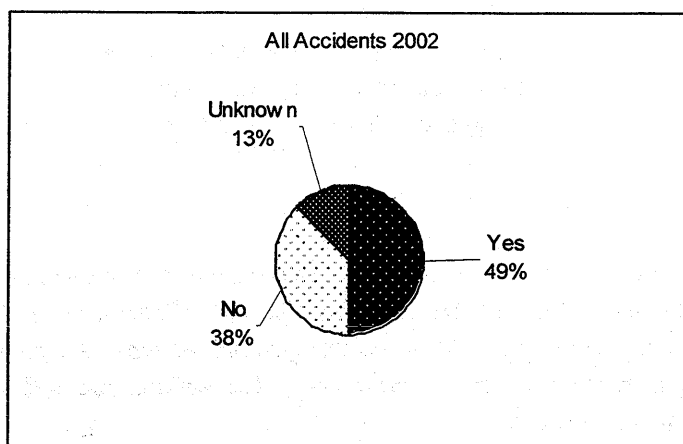


## 2002 Type of Firearm Used



Type of Firearm	# Used
Pistol	2
Rifle	2
Revolver	1
Shotgun	19

## 2002 Blaze Orange Apparel Worn



Blaze Orange	# of Hunters
Yes	12
No	9
Unknown	3

## 2002 Type of Cover

Type of Cover	# of Occurrences
Brush Pile	2
Light Cover	1
Waterfowl Area	1
Slough	1
Picked Corn Field	1
Near Porch	1
Horse Weeds	1
Lake w/ Reeds	1
Thick Timber	7
Brome Grass	1
Food Plot	1
Timber Edge	1
In Pickup	1
Open and Wooded	1
Fence, Draws	
Unknown	3

\* There was one hunting incident that happened in Iowa County that we received minimal information on before printing date. There is no narrative for this accident but it has been counted in our totals and statistics.

Incident # 1

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [x]

Same Party [self]

Date and Day of the Week: 02/02/02 Saturday County of Incident: Montgomery

Shooter Information

Age: 44

Years Hunting Experience: 34

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Coyote

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: .22 Cal. Semi Auto Pistol

Victim Information

Age: Same

Blaze Orange Apparel: N/A

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 12"

Type of Cover: Brush Pile

**NARRATIVE:** *Coyote hunters ran a wounded coyote into a brush pile. Shooter/Victim could see the coyote in the brush pile. Another hunter offers semi auto pistol. When shooter/victim reaches behind him for the gun and brings it forward the gun discharges. Slug went through the front of his thigh missing the bone and artery. Wound was cleaned at the hospital and shooter/victim was released.*

**CAUSE:** *Unsafe gun handling and failing to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.*

**PREVENTION:** *Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.*

Incident # 2

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [Yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 2/17/02 Sunday County of Incident: Harrison

Shooter Information

Age: 15

Years Hunting Experience: 2

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Rabbit

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Champion Iver Johnson 16 Ga.

Victim Information

Age: 14

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 30-35 yards

Type of Cover: N/A

**NARRATIVE:** *Shooter stumbled and fell forward. Shooter had been walking with the hammer in the "fire" (cocked) position. Pellets struck the victim 30-35 yards away. 1 pellet was removed from the scalp area of the victim.*

**CAUSE:** *Hunting with the hammer cocked, failed to have control of muzzle when he fell.*

**PREVENTION:** *Boys were hunting without required supervision and neither had hunting licenses. Walking with hammer in the cocked position. Should have had better muzzle control.*

Incident # 3

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [Yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 5/18/02 Saturday County of Incident: Taylor

Shooter Information

Age: 21

Years Hunting Experience: 10

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Turkey

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Double Barrel 12 gauge

Victim Information

Age: 49

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 20 yards

Type of Cover: Light Cover

**NARRATIVE:** *Shooter (Son) and Victim (Father) were set up calling turkeys with two decoys. Tom turkey flies in to area but will not come in. Son decides to stalk the tom. Father then decides to pull the decoys, puts one under each arm. Father is crossing ditch when son sees decoy and thinks it is a real turkey. Father is hit with seven pellets at 20 yards.*

**CAUSE:** *Shooter failed too properly identify bearded tom. Hunters moving unknown to each other.*

**PREVENTION:** *Properly identify game. Plan your hunt and hunt your plan. Better communications!*

Incident # 4

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [No]

Date and Day of the Week: 9/21/02 Saturday County of Incident: Wright

Shooter Information

Age: Unk.

Years Hunting Experience: Unknown

Hunter Education Graduate: Unknown

Game Hunted: Duck

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Shotgun with BB Steel

Victim Information

Age: 39

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: Unknown

Type of Cover: Waterfowl Area

**NARRATIVE:** *Just after shooting hours started lots of ducks, lots of shooting. Some teal flew in low over the water. Victim heard shots and felt something strike his face. A pellet had penetrated his upper left cheek. He could not determine who had fired the shot.*

**CAUSE:** *Shooting at low flying waterfowl, set up to close to other hunters.*

**PREVENTION:** *Know what is beyond your sight picture. Use good judgement in selecting your location*

Incident # 5

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [No]

Date and Day of the Week: 10/13/02 Sunday

County of Incident: Johnson

Shooter Information

Age: Unk.

Years Hunting Experience: Unknown

Hunter Education Graduate: Unknown

Game Hunted: Duck

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Shotgun

Victim Information

Age: 41

Blaze Orange Apparel: No, Camouflage

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 80 Yards

Type of Cover: Lake with Reeds

NARRATIVE: *Victim was struck with 1 pellet below the left eye by another hunter while duck hunting. (See Diagram)*

CAUSE: *Shooting at low flying waterfowl, set up too close to other duck hunters.*

PREVENTION: *Know what is beyond your sight picture. Use good judgement in selecting your location.*

Incident # 6

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 10/16/02 Wednesday

County of Incident: Linn

Shooter Information

Age: 32

Years Hunting Experience: unk

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Turkeys

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Shotgun

Victim Information

Age: 60s

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 25 yds

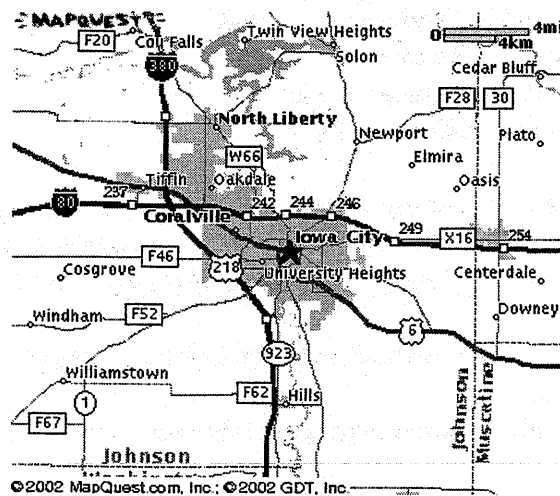
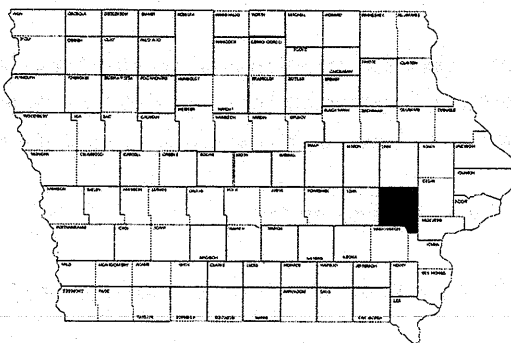
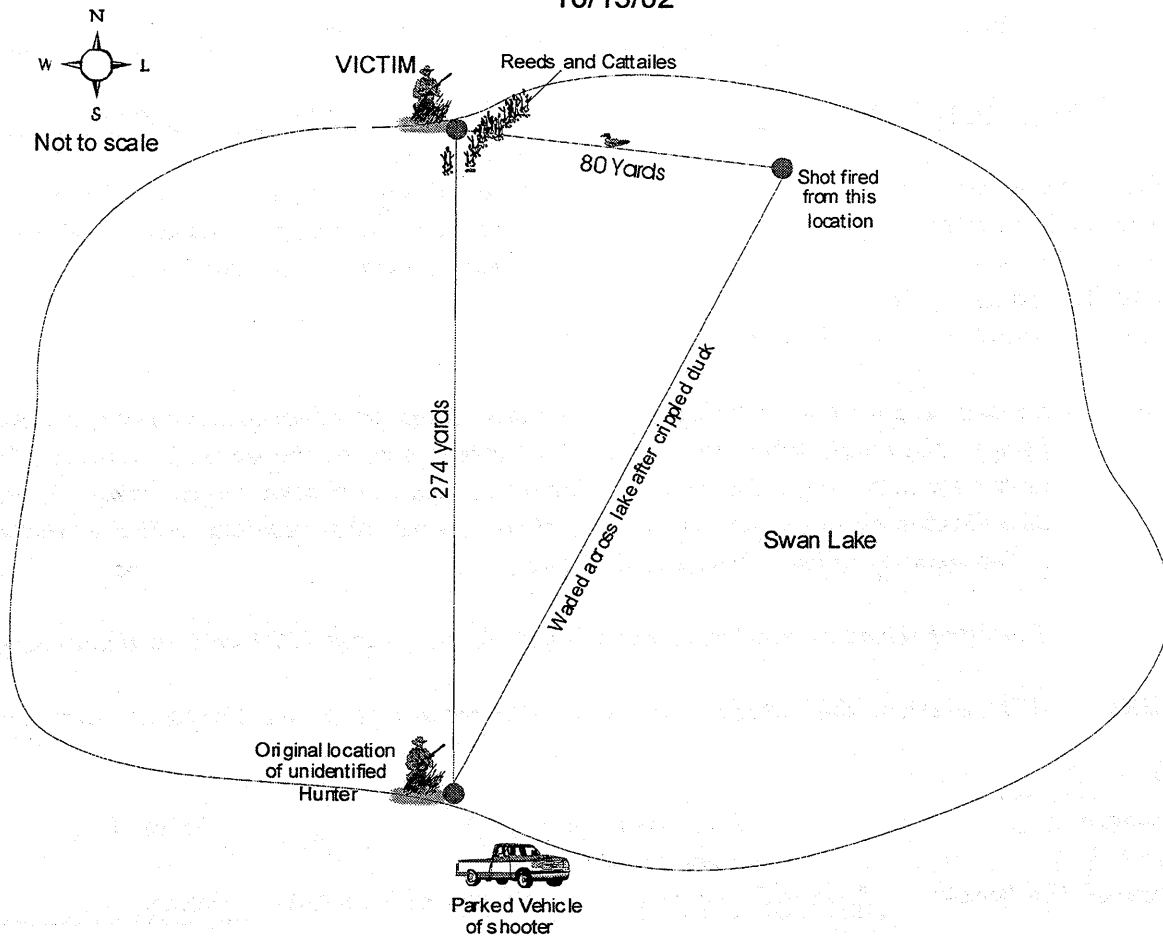
Type of Cover: Thick Timber

NARRATIVE: *Shooter was on top of a hill looking downward and thought he saw turkeys. Shooter waited for turkeys to settle down and then heard what he thought was turkeys walking in the leaves. Shooter shot what he thought was a turkey but turned out to be his father-in-law.*

CAUSE: *Victim mistaken for game (turkey)*

PREVENTION: *Identify target before you shoot and know what is beyond it. Shooter was cited for no turkey license.*

# Swan Lake Hunting Incident 10/13/02





Incident # 7

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [Yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/09/02 Saturday County of Incident: Clay

Shooter Information

Age: 12

Years Hunting Experience: 3

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Pheasant

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Ithica Model 100, 12 Gauge

Victim Information

Age: 15

Blaze Orange Apparel: No, Brown

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 60 yards

Type of Cover: Brome Grass

**NARRATIVE:** *Shooter was hunting with four other hunters. Shooter's feet became tired, and went back to the truck. When the rest of the hunters were on the way back, with in 60 yards of the truck the dog went on point. The group told the shooter to get ready, incase the bird flushed his direction. The bird flushed, shooter shot resulting in two pellets striking victim wearing no blaze orange in left arm.*

**CAUSE:** *Shooter became focused on target when it flushed, victim NOT wearing blaze orange*

**PREVENTION:** *When in doubt don't shoot, wear plenty of blaze orange so your companions can see you.*

Incident # 8

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/09/02 Saturday County of Incident: Grundy

Shooter Information

Age: UNK

Years Hunting Experience: UNK

Hunter Education Graduate: UNK

Game Hunted: Pheasant

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Shotgun 12 GA

Victim Information

Age: 21

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 10' > 60'

Type of Cover: Slough Tall Vegetation

**NARRATIVE:** *Seven men hunting pheasant, pushing a slough. Spotted crippled rooster that they had shot earlier. First five hunters formed a half circle around where the bird was last seen. The bird jumped and they all fired and Victim was struck in the groin area with 42 pellets.*

**CAUSE:** *Hunters not in straight line, shooting without a safe zone of fire.*

**PREVENTION:** *Know where all other hunters are in the party, only shoot if you have a safe zone fire.*

Incident # 9

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [x]

Same Party [self]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/11/02 Monday

County of Incident: Wayne

Shooter Information

Age: 31

Years Hunting Experience: 20

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Raccoon

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Ruger semi auto 22. Cal. Handgun

Victim Information

Age: Same

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 2 inches

Type of Cover: Picked corn field

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was attempting to remove the magazine from his semi auto handgun. Victim was also holding two leashed coon dogs. As victim was attempting to multi-task, the dogs jerked and the gun went off discharging into the victim's right thigh. Slug was removed.*

**CAUSE:** *Dogs jerked resulting in discharge of handgun.*

**PREVENTION:** *One thing at a time, handgun with safety on, always be cautious of dogs around guns.*

Incident # 10

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [X]

Same Party [self]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/15/02 Friday

County of Incident: Cerro Gordo

Shooter Information

Age: 58

Years Hunting Experience: Refused question

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Striped Skunk

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: 22. Cal. Henry Handgun

Victim Information

Age: Same

Blaze Orange Apparel: Refused question

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: Less than 6"

Type of Cover: Near Porch

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was attempting to shoot skunk under his porch. As he bent over to look at the skunk, he dropped the handgun. He fumbled with it, knocked the safety off, and the gun went off. The slug entered his lower right calf and exited.*

**CAUSE:** *Poor gun handling as a result of medical problems, suffers from M.S., right side is weak.*

**PREVENTION:** *Call for assistance or leave the skunk alone.*

Incident # 11

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [Yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/10/02 Sunday

County of Incident: Johnson

Shooter Information

Age: 36

Years Hunting Experience: 30

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Pheasant

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Benelli Black Eagle 12 Gauge

Victim Information

Age: 36

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 60 to 65 Yds.

Type of Cover: Horse Weeds

**NARRATIVE:** *7 hunters split up and were hunting terraces. The victim just walked off a terrace in to tall horseweeds when he heard pheasants begin to fly. The victim raised his gun and a pheasant was flying straight at him. Then he noticed the shooter was right out in front of him, heard the shot, felt the pellets hit his face. 8 pellets in the face, 1 hit left eye.*

**CAUSE:** *Not knowing where hunting companions were at all times. Swinging on game.*

**PREVENTION:** *Communicate, plan your hunt, hunt your plan safe zone of fire.*

Incident # 12

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/16/02 Saturday

County of Incident: Pocahontas

Shooter Information

Age: 53

Years Hunting Experience: 40

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Pheasant

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Benelli Montefetro 12 Gauge (6 Shot Lead)

Victim Information

Age: 55

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes (Cap & Coat)

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 80-100yds

Type of Cover: Grass/Brush

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was standing/blocking down range @ 80-100 yards when 4 drivers kicked up a pheasant, a shot was fired with 1 pellet striking the victim above the left eye. No penetration just bruising. Hunters believe the pellet may have ricocheted off of something.*

**CAUSE:** *Attempting to take game with person(s) down range of muzzle.*

**PREVENTION:** *Use of blockers while pheasant hunting can result in injury.*

Incident # 13

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [X]

Same Party [self]

Date and Day of the Week: 11/25/02 Monday County of Incident: Dallas

Shooter Information

Age: 64

Years Hunting Experience: 40

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Pheasant

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: AYA Brairwood 12 Shotgun

Victim Information

Age: Same

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: Contact

Type of Cover: Food Plot

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim placed two shells in the double barrel shotgun. Later he broke the gun open and discovered there was only one shell in it. So, he loaded another shell. A pheasant flushed, victim pulls trigger and hears a huge explosion. 1/3 of the left barrel was blown out. Victim had 9 pellets removed from his left thumb.*

**CAUSE:** *Victim found 3, 20 gauge shells mixed in with his 12 gauge shells in his pocket.*

**PREVENTION:** *Never carry two types of ammunition.*

Incident # 14

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [ ]

Fatal [X]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/07/02 Saturday County of Incident: Mahaska

Shooter Information

Age: 14

Years Hunting Experience: unk

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Coyote

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Rem. 870, 20 Gauge, 3inch

Victim Information

Age: 44

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 283 Feet

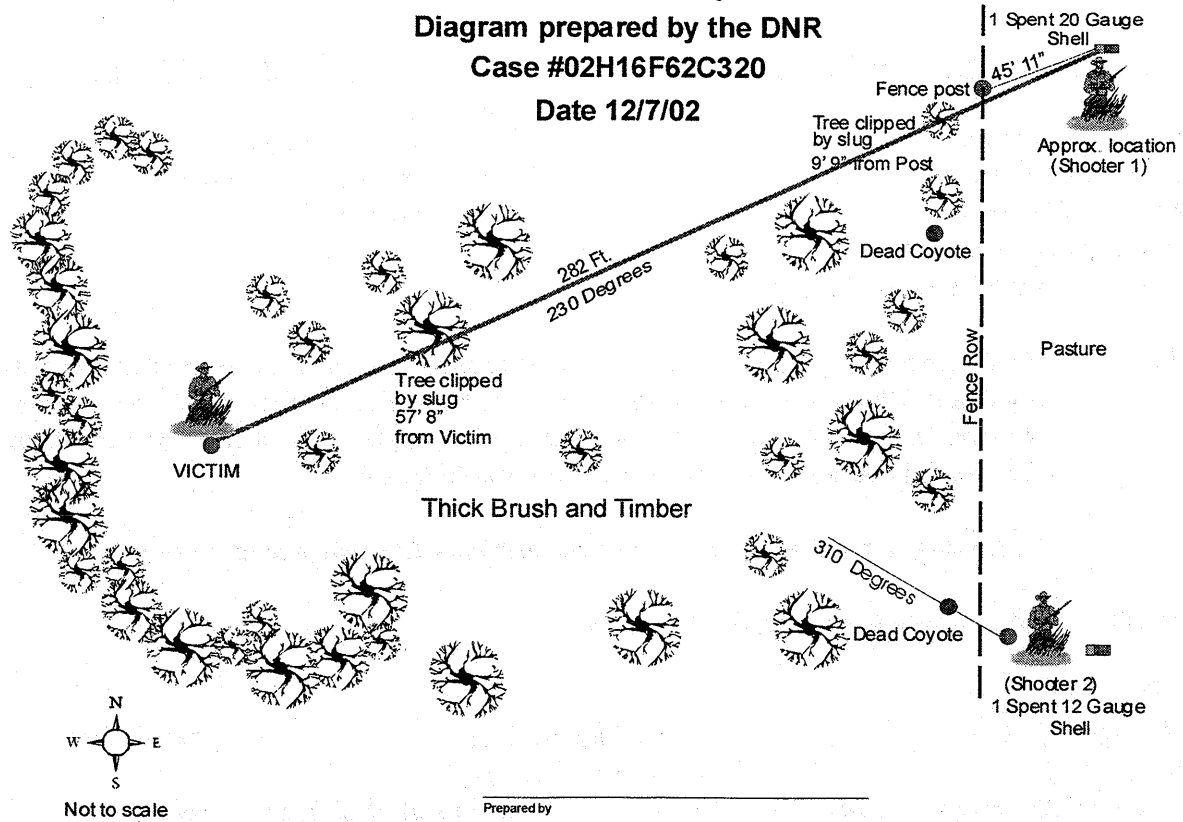
Type of Cover: Thick woods

**NARRATIVE:** *Shooter shot once at coyote. Slug traveled through the coyote down on down a hill 283 feet and struck the victim on the left side of the head during a deer drive.  
(See Diagram)*

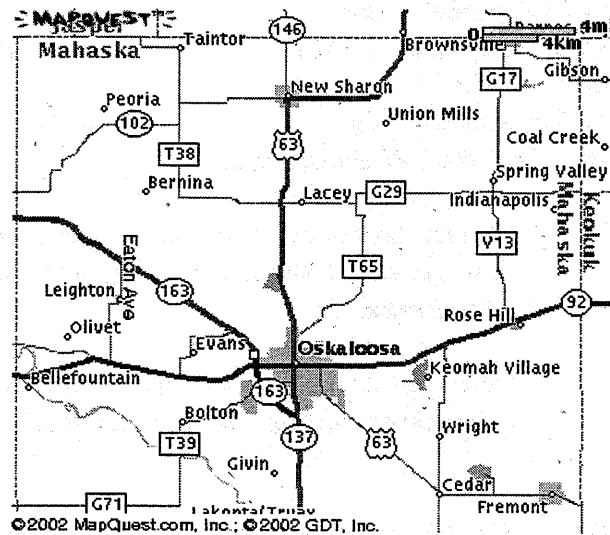
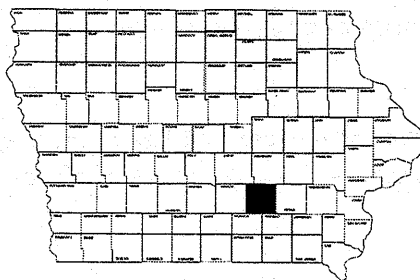
**CAUSE:** *Victim out of sight of shooter, victim had an insufficient amount of blaze orange, lighting in timber at that time of day cast shadows that may have also caused visual effect.*

**PREVENTION:** *Shooting at running game is still the number 1 cause of fatal incidents.*

**Fatal Hunting Accident**  
**Mahaska County**  
**Diagram prepared by the DNR**  
**Case #02H16F62C320**  
**Date 12/7/02**



Prepared by



Incident # 15

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [no]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/07/02 Saturday County of Incident: Cherokee

Shooter Information

Age: *Unk*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unk*

Hunter Education Graduate: *Unk*

Game Hunted: *Unk*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Unk*

Firearm Used: *Shotgun*

Victim Information

Age: *46*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *unk*

Type of Cover: *Timber edge near bean field*

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was on stand at the timbers edge. Victim heard some shooting and then heard slug or slugs going by him. Victim then felt something hit him in his right leg. Victim then saw a doe deer running down a revine and victim took a few steps and shot at the deer. Victim then looked at leg and realized he had been hit in right leg.*

**CAUSE:** *Victim out of sight of shooter and shooter not knowing what was beyond their target.*

**PREVENTION:** *Shooter needs to be sure of what is beyond their target and needs to make sure that there is some type of backstop if shot is taken. Shooting at running game causes injury.*

Incident # 16

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/08/02 Sunday County of Incident: Washington

Shooter Information

Age: *36*

Years Hunting Experience: *20*

Hunter Education Graduate: *No*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Firearm Used: *Browning 12 Ga. Semi Auto.*

Victim Information

Age: *18*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *Unk*

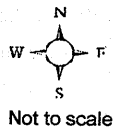
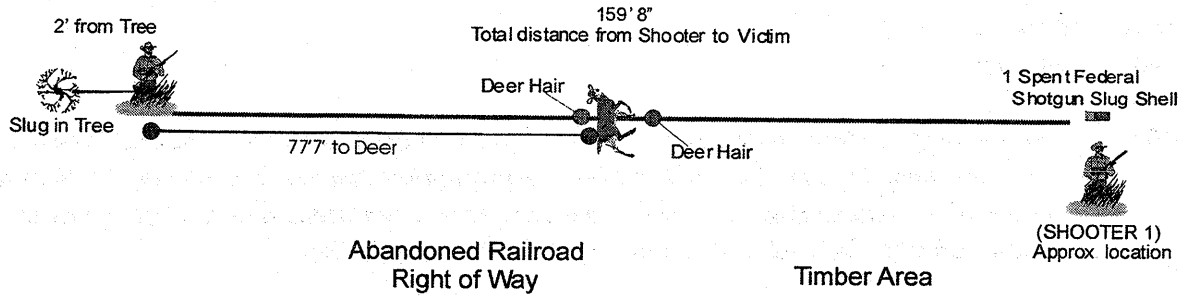
Type of Cover: *Timber - Dense*

**NARRATIVE:** *Driver shot at deer that ran between himself and the stander (victim.) Driver thought stander was in different location and thought he had a safe shot. Victim hit in lower stomach and exited out right side 8" from entrance wound. Slug recovered from tree directly behind victim. (See Diagram)*

**CAUSE:** *Victim out of sight from shooter and poor planning of hunt and not knowing where all of hunting party is located. Shooting at running deer.*

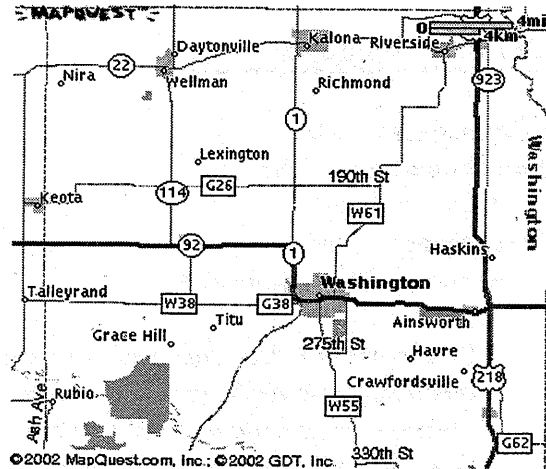
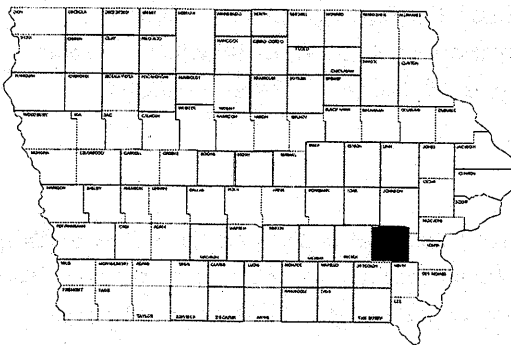
**PREVENTION:** *Plan the hunt and hunt the plan. Don't shoot unless you have a good backstop. Shooting at running deer causes injury.*

**Hunting Accident**  
**Washington County**  
**Diagram prepared by the DNR**  
**Case #02H18PI92C389**  
**Date 12/8/02**



Pasture

Prepared by



Incident # 17

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [ X ]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [ yes ]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/07/02 Saturday County of Incident: Monona

Shooter Information

Age: 15

Years Hunting Experience: 2

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Deer

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Mossberg 5500 MKII 12 Ga.

Victim Information

Age: 30

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 8 feet

Type of Cover: In Pickup

**NARRATIVE:** Shooter was standing behind pickup truck in parking lot. Took semi-auto out of case and loaded. Shooter hit button to load chamber, gun fired sending slug through pickup tool box, front of pickup box, rear of cab, seat and through forearm of victim reaching into truck.

**CAUSE:** While loading firearm on pickup tailgate pointing gun toward cab, defective firearm?

**PREVENTION:** Always point the firearm in a safe direction. Including while loading and unloading.

Incident # 18

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [ x ]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [ yes ]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/14/02 Saturday County of Incident: Allamakee

Shooter Information

Age: 59

Years Hunting Experience: 52

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Deer

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Remington 870 20ga

Victim Information

Age: 21

Blaze Orange Apparel: Yes

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 125 yds

Type of Cover: Timber

**NARRATIVE:** Victim was dragging out a deer that he had just shot. However, the deer drive was still going on. Drivers walked past shooter who was on stand and then deer ran behind drivers. Deer ran in same direction as victim who was dragging out his deer. Shooter shot at the deer and could not see the victim nor was the shooter aware of the victims location.

**CAUSE:** Shooter was not aware of what was beyond his target or location of victim. Victim should not have been dragging out his deer while drive still ongoing. Victim was out of sight of shooter.

**PREVENTION:** Communication - Know where your other hunters are and what is beyond your target.



Incident # 19

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [unk]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/21/02 Saturday County of Incident: Guthrie

Shooter Information

Age: *unk*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unk*

Hunter Education Graduate: *Unk*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Firearm Used: *Shotgun Slug*

Victim Information

Age: *32*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *unk*

Type of Cover: *Dense*

**NARRATIVE:** *The shooter, victim and another hunter were pushing deer through a timbered draw. Several deer attempted to run back through the line of hunters. The shooter fired at the deer and the bullet ricocheted, striking the victim.*

**CAUSE:** *Shooter exceeded zone of fire. Group failed to maintain safe shooting zones.*

**PREVENTION:** *Obey the zones of fire, do not shoot at running deer.*

Incident # 20

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [ ]

Same Party [yes]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/22/02 Sunday County of Incident: Adams

Shooter Information

Age: *45*

Years Hunting Experience: *Unknown*

Hunter Education Graduate: *Unknown*

Game Hunted: *Deer*

Attempting to Bag Game: *Yes*

Firearm Used: *12 ga Shotgun Mosberg 500*

Victim Information

Age: *22*

Blaze Orange Apparel: *Yes*

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: *200 yards*

Type of Cover: *Open & wooded fence, draws.*

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim and another hunter were walking east through a brushy and timbered slope between two fields. The shooter was a stander. He was located S.E. of the victim, along edge of the field, where it meets slope, about 200 yds. from victim. Shooter was on the N.E. edge of the field, where the timber, field, and road meet. A deer came out of the timber. Shooter fired twice, apparently missed both times. Second shot struck victim in the head. It passed through bill of his baseball cap, grazed his skull above left eye.*

**CAUSE:** *The victim was out of sight of the shooter.*

**PREVENTION:** *Party should have kept better track of locations of drivers and standers.*

Incident # 21

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [x]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [x]

Same Party [self]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/19/02

County of Incident: Tama

Shooter Information

Age: 24

Years Hunting Experience: 6

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Deer

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Winchester Semi Auto 20 Ga.  
Shotgun

Victim Information

Age: Same

Blaze Orange Apparel:

Distance of Muzzle to Wound:

Type of Cover:

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was deer hunting and had spotted some deer on his way to sit in a tree stand. Victim took gun off safe while waiting to see if the buck would present him a shot. Victim did not shoot at buck and proceeded to tree stand and attempted to climb into it with a loaded gun with the safety off.*

**CAUSE:** *Victim failed to unload the gun and put the safety on prior to climbing up into tree stand.*

**PREVENTION:** *Victim should have put the safety back on and unloaded the gun before attempting to climb up into the tree stand. Note: Victim did use a rope to pull gun up into tree stand when gun discharged.*

Incident # 22

Property Damage [ ]

Personal Injury [X]

Fatal [ ]

Self Inflicted [X]

Same Party [Self]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/28/02 Saturday

County of Incident: Clayton

Shooter Information

Age: 25

Years Hunting Experience: 2

Hunter Education Graduate: Yes

Game Hunted: Squirrel

Attempting to Bag Game: Yes

Firearm Used: Ruger 10/22 .22cal rifle

Victim Information Same

Age: same

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: Contact

Type of Cover: Timber

**NARRATIVE:** *Victim was aiming at a squirrel and the squirrel moved. Victim attempted to move in order to get a shot at the squirrel. When victim moved he lost his balance and the gun still had the safety off and gun discharged during the fall.*

**CAUSE:** *Victim had the safety off and still had his finger in the trigger guard. Victim was trying to do too many tasks at once.*

**PREVENTION:** *Safety should have been on and shooters finger should have been outside the trigger guard while attempting to move to bag game.*

Incident # 23

Property Damage [ ☐ ]

Personal Injury [ ☒ ]

Fatal [ ☐ ]

Self Inflicted [ ☐ ]

Same Party [ yes ]

Date and Day of the Week: 12/29/02 Sunday

County of Incident: Appanoose

Shooter Information

Age: 10

Years Hunting Experience: 0

Hunter Education Graduate: No

Game Hunted: Rabbit & Squirrel

Attempting to Bag Game: No

Firearm Used: Squires-Bingham .22cal Semi  
Auto

Victim Information

Age: 15

Blaze Orange Apparel: No

Distance of Muzzle to Wound: 20 yards

Type of Cover: Timber

**NARRATIVE:** *Shooter and victim were hunting together and walking through the timber. Shooter stumbled and fell and gun discharged.*

**CAUSE:** *Sheriff felt that careless gun handling and the shooter stumbled and fell.*

**PREVENTION:** *Better gun handling skills and pay better attention while afield.*